APRIL 13, 1776. NUMBER 1288.

THE VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

WITH THE FRESHEST ADVICES, BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTICK.

IN CIVITATE LIBERA LINGUAM MENTEMQUE LIBERAS ESSE DEBERE.----*Suet.* in TIB. S. 28.

PRINTED by JOHN DIXON And WILLIAM HUNTER.

☞ ALL Perſons may be ſupplied with this PAPER at *Twelve Shillings* and *Sixpence* a Year, and have ADVERTISEMENTS (of a moderate Length) inſerted for *Three Shillings* the firſt Week, and *Two Shillings* each Week after.----------PRINTING WORK done at this Office in the NEATEST Manner, with Care and Expedition.

WILLIAMSBURG, APRIL 13, 1776.

AS GENERAL LEE *muſt, in a great Meaſure, regulate the Motions of the Continental Troops under his Command, according to the internal Force of the Colony, the Committees of the different Counties are requeſted to ſend into Head Quarters a Return of their Minute-Men, with the State and Condition of their Arms.*

To the INHABITANTS *of* VIRGINIA.

Caput, domina, venale, ſub haſta. JUV.
His fortune ruined, and himſelf a ſlave.

MY COUNTRYMEN,

THE fears of many, leſt we ſhould not be able to provide ſufficient funds for the ſupport of an expenſive war, has been the reaſon why they have been ſo reluctant to break that connection with Britain which has been the ſource of ſo many evils, and may probably incline them to ſpend *that* time in NEGOTIATION *which* they ought to employ in *action*; but a little attention to the advantages that we ſhall derive from unreſtrained commerce may diſſipate their fears, and point out to them an ample compenſation for all the expences, the dangers, and the toils of the war. I ſhall only produce the trade of this colony as an example, with which you are beſt acquainted. This has hitherto been almoſt wholly managed by foreigners, and in foreign bottoms; and will be ſo again, if, by any NEGOTIATION, our enemies can betray or bribe us to an accommodation on their own principles. You are without merchants, ſhips, ſeamen, or ſhip-builders; and thus want ſeveral very abundant ſources of wealth, as well as nurſeries of arts, and of numerous uſeful ſubjects to the ſtate. Your trade is confined to a ſingle ſpot on the globe, in the hands of the natives of a diſtant iſland, who fix the market of all commodities at their pleaſure, and we may be very ſure will rate your's at the loweſt, and their own at the higheſt prices, they will in any conſcience bear. Every article of merchandiſe, that is not the produce of Britain, muſt firſt pay its duties to the Crown, perhaps muſt be increaſed in the price a very large advance *per cent.* there, and then be re-exported to Virginia, and undergo an additional advance of 75, and ſometimes near 150 *per cent.* here. This diſadvantage is much more ſenſible by thoſe who are acquainted with the trade of the northern colonies, where they are not altogether ſo ſhamefully gulled as we have been from the firſt plantation of this colony. You can there buy linens and broadcloths from the retail merchants at the ſame price your factors here tell you they obtain them at prime coſt in Britain. By this means you fairly loſe 75l. currency on every 100l. ſterling worth of merchandiſe you import from Great Britain that is not native to that country. If we ſuppoſe your imports from thence annually to amount to 700,000l. ſterling (which can be no extravagant ſuppoſition) and ſuppoſe upon one half of that ſum you loſe in the proportion which I have already mentioned, *there* will be loſt 262,500l. *per annum*, which might be ſaved by a *free* and *independent trade*; or, to be ſure that we are within bounds, fix it at 200,000l.

Let us next advert to the amazing injury you ſuſtain in the *dependent* trade, by your merchants being all foreigners. This is a ſituation not peculiar to you, but affects all the ſouthern colonies, from Maryland to Georgia. I am not well enough acquainted with the trade of Virginia to know exactly how many foreign houſes, or companies, have an intereſt in it, or how many factors are employed by them to manage it; but I ſuppoſe I ſhall be far enough within bounds if I ſay fifty of the former, and two thouſand of the latter. Whether I am right or wrong in the numbers, the principles of my calculation will be equally juſt, and may be very eaſily applied to enlarge and diminiſh the profit or loſs to the merchant and the country, by readers who are better acquainted with the ſubject than I am. It is not unreaſonable to ſay, that every houſe, or company, makes 15,000l. a year neat gain by the trade of this colony; and conſequently fifty houſes will annually export 750,000l. ſterling, to Scotland and England, which will be juſt ſo much ſaved to the colony whenever its own natives ſhall become its merchants. And allowing to the factors, on an average, one hundred pounds each *per annum*, as ſome have much more, and others perhaps may have leſs; if, out of this annual income, we ſuppoſe them to ſpend thirty pounds in the country, there will be ſeventy pounds a year laid up for their own uſe, and expended in Britain, for what they cannot, or do not, chooſe to purchaſe in America. But becauſe they pay taxes, and are of ſome other ſmall ſervice to the colony, as long as they ſtay in it, we will rate their gain at ten pounds leſs, and ſuppoſe them to lay up ſixty pounds a year, which is ſo much taken out of the trading ſtock of this country, and only waits for a ſufficient addition to be carried off and expended beyond ſea. Here is another loſs of 120,000l. *per annum*; and the whole together amounts to 870,000l. ſterling *per annum* that we loſe by foreign merchants; beſides the great number of uſeful arts that are cloſely connected with the management of commerce by the natives of any country. How many thouſand excellent ſubjects might be employed in ſhip-building, in manning your fleets, in raiſing and manufacturing all kinds of naval ſtores? Reflect a moment on the preſent condition of Spain, and on her condition two centuries ago. She preſents us with a ſtriking inſtance, out of a great number which Europe, Aſia, and Africa afford, of the ill effects of reſigning her commerce into the hands of foreigners; then the moſt opulent and formidable power in Europe, now among the moſt deſpiſed and neglected; then able to give laws to almoſt all the world. The United Netherlands were but an inconſiderable part of her extenſive and powerful empire, but now grown indolent, and negligent of commerce. Even the little province of Holland, in her turn, gives the laws of the ſea to her former miſtreſs.

I am afraid this ſubject, though very important, begins to grow dry and unentertaining to the public. I ſhall therefore produce but one more inſtance of the loſs we ſuſtain by this *independent trade*; and that is in our ſtaple, upon which the government of England, and the merchants of Scotland, have it in their power to put what price they pleaſe. At preſent we eſteem twopence halfpenny *per* pound, or about twenty ſhillings per *cwt.* a very good average price; and at this rate a careful planter may keep himſelf above want, and have enough beſides to pay his taxes, and give a dinner now and then to a friend. This tobacco is exported to Britain, and pays ſeven-pence halfpenny ſterling duty per pound, and their merchants make their fortunes out of it afterwards. The duty that tobacco pays in the Britiſh ports is almoſt four times the price it bears in Virginia; which, by a free trade, and exporting it directly to the countries that conſume it, would be ſo much clear gain to us. The planter then, inſtead of twenty ſhillings, would receive five pounds per *cwt.* But, making large allowance for the diſcouragements that ſuch an article of luxury might be under in our hands, if we were ſeparated from Britain, which now conſumes a large proportion of it, I ſhall ſuppoſe its common price to be three pounds; that is, forty ſhillings more than we receive at preſent. If then we ſuppoſe that there are annually 110,000,000lbs. or 110,000 hogſheads of tobacco exported out of the colony (which perhaps is pretty near the truth) we ſhall gain an advantage of 2,200,000l. a year, beſides half as much more by the great quantities of hemp, flax, cotton, wheat, and flour, that are beginning to be raiſed or manufactured; that will enable my countrymen to be as generous, as their natural temper inclines them to be, and to pay a tax of forty ſhillings with greater convenience than they can pay one of fifteen ſhillings at preſent. To preſent you in one view the whole of what you loſe by a *dependent trade*, and would gain by a determined reſolution to emancipate yourſelves and it into the liberty for which I hope Providence has deſigned both, and to liſten to no *pretended* NEGOTIATION that does not carry upon her face candour and fairneſs, and openly, and without diſguiſe, extend freedom in the one hand, while ſhe offers peace in the other,

1ſt. On imports, as above, — — —	£.	200,000
2d. Merchants neat profits 870,000l. ſterling,		1,087,500 cur.
3d. Planters groſs profits — —		2,200,000
4th. On wheat, flour, hemp, flax, *&c.* at leaſt half as much; but ſay, — —		1,000,000
5th. That part of the groſs profits of the merchants that will go to artiſts of different kinds, ſhip-builders, ſeamen, makers of ſails, cordage, anchors, and a variety of other tradeſmen, muſt exceed their neat gain: Suppoſe it — —		1,500,000
Sum total	£.	5,987,500

That is, it will increaſe the real property among us annually to near ſix millions. This in ſeven years (by which time we ſhall undoubtedly have diſcharged our part of the continental expence) will amount to above forty millions of pounds currency that we ſhall be more wealthy than we ſhould have been if we had continued *dependent* on Great Britain, and in the ſame circumſtances that a few years ago we eſteemed very proſperous. I make no allowance for the gradual improvement of commerce, becauſe I am willing to make all my calculations at the loweſt rates that things will bear; and it is very poſſible that I am now a million or two below the truth. Beſides, we may let the increaſed profits of ſome of the laſt years of this period balance our unſkilfulneſs and poverty for a few years in the beginning of it. Here is a fund ſufficient for defraying all the expences that even the moſt timorous amongſt us can ſuppoſe to be neceſſary for the preſervation of our liberties, againſt the avarice of a nation much more powerful than the Engliſh, and not a farthing of our preſent property touched. And although we ſhould not be able to enjoy an unmoleſted trade for ſeveral years to come; yet, whenever that deſirable period ſhall arrive, that we ſhall be as free as we ought to be, we ſhall ſpeedily be able to redeem all the bills of credit it may be found neceſſary to iſſue for that purpoſe. For if we lay but the moderate tax of a ſhilling in the pound (which we ſhould hardly perceive) only on thoſe gains that will be wholly additional to the gains of our former *limited* and *dependent commerce*, we ſhall be able to ſink all the bills iſſued in this colony, and our quota of thoſe that have been iſſued by the Congreſs, and have in the public coffers beſides upwards of five millions of dollars for other neceſſary uſes.

If we aim *only* at *intereſt* in the preſent conteſt, it appears plainly what part we ought at once to reſolve upon. If we mean to unite with our intereſt the conſiderations of equity, and the dictates of natural affection, there is a degree of injury where affection ceaſes, and is converted into reſentment; and I know of no principles of equity that forbid us to defend ourſelves, or that require us to riſk every thing we have been contending for in *tedious and treacherous* NEGOTIATIONS. Does any of my countrymen aſk me whether I am an enemy to all treaty, and inquire what proſpect ſhall we have, if theſe maxims prevail, of ever ſeeing a period of our troubles? I anſwer, no; but I would treat with them as the Roman Conſul did with the King of Aſia. And ſince they have firſt drawn the ſword, I would mark a circle round them with the ſword, and demand their peremptory, unevative anſwer to every requiſition our country has a right to make from them, before they leave the ſpot. The controverſy has been agitated long enough for both nations to underſtand each other. Each perfectly knows what ſhe is willing to yield, or on what ſhe will firmly fix her foot, determined to hold it, or periſh in the attempt. What need is there of delay? An hour may decide it as well as an age. *We* are too fond of *this* to be playing over with them all the tricks of what they are pleaſed to call NEGOTIATION, but which is really nothing elſe than downright *lying* and *ſharping*. It is no time to parley with a robber about your purſe, when he has his piſtol at your breaſt. You muſt either give or take in a moment. It would become us, in the opinion of ſome men, mighty well to be ſure, to forbear ſuch high language, and rather to manage our cauſe by ſupplication and crying to a great King and a powerful nation! We have cried and roared long enough already, and what have we got by it? Our petitions have been turned out of doors, and we have all been called rebels and ſavages, and what not, becauſe we have roared ſo loud as to diſturb his Majeſty's good repoſe, and oblige him to wear out his horſes driving from Kew to St. James's. If we are blameable, it is for uſing theſe ineffectual applications too long. The time is come in which we ought to do ſomething deciſive; and the more deſirous our enemies ſeem to be to involve us in knotty and intricate NEGOTIATIONS, the more determined ſhould we be not to unravel them, but to cut them with the ſword. They well know that tedious, inactive delays, muſt bring our affairs to a ruinous condition; and if they can waſte our time in *negotiating*, the battle is won without ſtriking a ſtroke. Our reſources muſt be greatly diminiſhed before we engage in action; and when they have worn us out with ſubtle deliberations, and waſted our treaſure, while they only wanted to gain time by artful compliances and demands, they know very well how, by a *fetch* in politics, to throw every thing into confuſion again, and to expoſe us naked, and perhaps diſtracted with mutual diſcords among ourſelves, to ſuperior wealth, and ſuperior power. I deſign no reflection on thoſe who may be appointed to treat with them on the part of America. On the other hand, I do not doubt their abilities. But it is always in the power of a Miniſtry, who *will* be treacherous, and whoſe intereſt lies in gaining time, to over-reach the wiſeſt politicians, if they will deſcend to follow them through the labyrinths of a *negotiation* that is only meant as a wile to miſlead, or to blind them. But we have not only an accumulated debt to dread by the tedious delays that are unavoidable in the common forms of *negotiating*, but infinite diſſentions among ourſelves. An enterpriſe that depends upon the concord and exertions of the people, will ever infallibly fail if they are long held in a ſtate of doubtful inactivity. All wiſe politicians, who have governed them with ſucceſs, have found it neceſſary to keep them employed in conſtant action. I can ſcarcely forbear to conſider it as miraculous, that this extenſive continent has hitherto been led to purſue one determinate plan, with ſo much unanimity and perſeverance. But there is no error we ought more to dread than wearing out the patience of the populace by inaction. When their minds have long hung in ſuſpenſe, at ſuch a criſis as the preſent, they naturally fall into one of theſe two dangerous evils, either an entire languor and paſſivity of temper, or an impatience that at length breaks out in faction and ſedition. In two of our neighbouring colonies, which have been fartheſt removed from the ſcene of action, we have already ſeen this obſervation unhappily verified. And the ſuſpenſe in which all the colonies have been held for a conſiderable time is beginning to verge towards impatience, which will very probably ſoon burſt out into violent mutual diſſentions, if it ſhall be defrauded of a proper enemy by an unſeaſonable NEGOTIATION; eſpecially when it is artfully managed by emiſſaries who will refuſe neither promiſes nor rewards to enflame it to their purpoſe. For God's ſake then, my countrymen, let us waſte no time in unneceſſary and dangerous delays; let us act with vigour and deciſion; let us propoſe to them the terms we demand in a clear and unequivocal manner, and require of them an immediate and unequivocal anſwer. Suffer them not to waſte an hour, for every hour is precious, under the artful pretence of conſidering propoſitions more maturely, which they ought to have been well determined on long ago; or of not having brought with them ſufficient powers, a uſual artifice of ſtateſmen ſo that they can propoſe or anſwer nothing deciſive without ſending two or three times acroſs the Atlantic. And ſince they have ſet us the example of treating at the point of the ſword; cut ſhort the NEGOTIATION they would be willing to protract, and make your appeal at once to the ſword. A PLANTER.

The following are copies of letters which paſſed, before the late action in NORTH CAROLINA, between Brigadier General Moore, and Brigadier General M'Donald.

A letter from DONALD M'DONALD, *Eſq; lately created Brigadier General in the Tory army, by Governor Martin, to Brigadier General* MOORE, *at Rockfiſh, dated February* 19, 1776.

" SIR,

I HEREWITH ſend the bearer (Donald Morriſon) by advice of the commiſſioners appointed by his Excellency Joſiah Martin, and in behalf of the army now under my command, to propoſe terms to you as friends and countrymen. I muſt ſuppoſe you unacquainted with the Governor's proclamation, commanding all his Majeſty's loyal ſubjects to repair to the King's royal ſtandard, elſe I ſhould have imagined you would, ere this, have joined the King's army now engaged in his Majeſty's ſervice. I have therefore thought it proper to intimate to you, that in caſe you do not, by 12 o'clock to-morrow, join the royal ſtandard, I muſt conſider you as enemies, and take the neceſſary ſteps for the ſupport of legal authority.

" I beg leave to remind you of his Majeſty's ſpeech to his Parliament, wherein he offers to receive the miſled with tenderneſs and mercy. From motives of humanity, I again beg of you to accept the profered clemency. I make no doubt but you will ſhew the Gentleman ſent on this meſſage every poſſible civility, and you may depend, in return, that all your officers and men which may fall into our hands ſhall be treated with an equal degree of reſpect. I have the honour to be, in behalf of the army, Sir, your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

DON. MAC DONALD.

His Excellency's proclamation is herewith incloſed.

Brigadier General MOORE's *anſwer.*

" SIR.

YOUR's of this day I have received, in anſwer to which I muſt inform you, that the terms which you are pleaſed to

say, in behalf of the army under your command, are offered to us as friends and countrymen, are such as neither my duty or inclinations will permit me to accept, and which I must presume you too much of an officer to expect of me. You were very right when you supposed me unacquainted with the Governor's proclamation, but as the terms therein proposed are such as I hold incompatible with the freedom of Americans, it can be no rule of conduct for me; however, should I not hear further from you before 12 o'clock to-morrow, by which time I shall have an opportunity of consulting my officers here, and perhaps Colonel Martin, who is in the neighbourhood of Cross-Creek, you may expect a more particular answer; mean time you may be assured that the feelings of humanity will induce me to shew that civility to such of your people as may fall into our hands, as I am desirous should be observed towards those of ours, who may be unfortunate enough to fall into yours.

I am, Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

Camp at ROCKFISH, *Feb.* 19, 1776. } JAMES MOORE.

From Brigadier General MOORE *to Brigadier General* M'DONALD.

SIR,

AGREEABLE to my promise of yesterday I have consulted the officers under my command, respecting your letter, and am happy in finding them unanimous in opinion with me. We consider ourselves engaged in a cause the most glorious and honorable in the world, the defence of the liberties of mankind, in support of which we are determined to hazard every thing dear and valuable; and in tenderness to the deluded people under your command, permit me, Sir, through you to inform them, before it is too late, of the dangerous and destructive precipice on which they stand, and to remind them of the ungrateful return they are about to make for their favourable reception in this country: If this is not sufficient to recall them to the duty which they owe to themselves and their posterity, inform them that they are engaged in a cause in which they cannot succeed, as not only the whole force of this country, but that of our neighbouring provinces is exerting and now actually in motion to suppress them, and which must end in their utter destruction.——Desirous however of avoiding the effusion of human blood, I have thought proper to send you a copy of the test recommended by the Continental Congress, which if they will yet subscribe, and lay down their arms by to-morrow 12 o'clock, we are willing to receive them as friends and countrymen.——Should this offer be rejected, I shall consider them as enemies to the Constitutional Liberties of America, and treat them accordingly.

"I cannot conclude without reminding you, Sir, of the oath which you and some of your officers took at Newbern, on your arrival in this country, which I imagine you will find difficult to reconcile to your present conduct.—I have no doubt that the bearer, Captain James Walker, will be treated with proper civility and respect in your camp.

I am, Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

Camp at ROCKFISH, *Feb* 20, 1776. } JAMES MOORE.

From Brigadier General M'DONALD *to Brigadier General* MOORE.

SIR,

I RECEIVED your favour by Captain James Walker, and observed your declared sentiments of revolt, hostility, and rebellion to the King, and to what I understand to be the constitution of this country. If I am mistaken, future consequences must determine; but while I continue in my present sentiments I shall consider myself embarked in a cause which must, in its consequences, extricate this country from anarchy and licentiousness. I cannot conceive that the Scots emigrants (to whom I imagine you allude) can be under greater obligations to this country than to that King under whose gracious and merciful government they alone could have been enabled to visit this western region. And I trust, Sir, it is in the womb of time to say, that they are not that deluded and ungrateful people which you would represent them to be. As a soldier in his Majesty's service, I must inform you (if you are yet to learn) that it is my duty to conquer, if I cannot reclaim, all those who may be hardy enough to take up arms against the best of masters, as of Kings. I have the honour to be, in behalf of the army under my command, Sir, your most obedient servant.

HEAD QUARTERS, 20th *Feb.* 1776. } DONALD M'DONALD

JAMES MOORE, Esquire.

Messr. DIXON & HUNTER,

By inserting in your useful and impartial paper the following abstract from letters lately published in PHILADELPHIA, *you will oblige a number of your readers, and particularly*

AN OLD CUSTOMER.

[*From the* PENNSYLVANIA PACKET.]

"THE account which we have already received of commissioners being appointed in England, and ready to embark for America, in order to negotiate a settlement of the present unhappy differences, has engaged the attention, and exercised the speculations of many among us. The powers with which they are to be invested, the manner in which they are to be received, how they are to be treated with, or whether they are to be treated with at all, have been canvassed agreeable to the different views or judgments of individuals.

"Among others, a writer under the signature of *Cassandra*, in the Pennsylvania Evening Post, has held forth sentiments which I conceive highly disgraceful to America, and pernicious to society in general. He pretends to have satisfied himself (upon what grounds I know not) that the sole view of Administration in this commission is to amuse and deceive, to bribe and corrupt us. And because he SUPPOSES all of us so very *corruptable*, he proposes, by way of prevention, to seize the commissioners upon their first setting foot on shore, and bring them immediately under a strong guard to the Congress. I have too good an opinion of the virtue and good sense of my countrymen to think they will pay any other regard to this advice, than to consider the author as an enthusiast, or madman.

"The contest in which we are engaged is founded on the most noble and virtuous principles which can animate the mind of man. We are contending, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, against an arbitrary Ministry, for the rights of Englishmen. The eyes of all Europe are upon us, and every generous bosom, in which the pulse of liberty yet beats, sympathises with us; and is interested in our success. Our cause, therefore, being the cause of virtue, it will be expected that all our steps should be guided by it; and that where the stock is so fair, the fruit will be proportionably perfect. Let us not disappoint these sanguine expectations by the smallest deviation from those liberal and enlarged sentiments which should mark the conduct of freemen; and when the faithful HISTORIC page shall record the events of this GLORIOUS STRUGGLE, may not a single line in the bright annals be stained by the recital of a disgraceful action, nor future Americans have cause to blush for the failings of their ancestors.

"As we have long professed an ardent desire of peace, let us meet those who bring the terms, with that virtuous confidence which is inseparable from an upright conduct. Let us hear their proposals with patience, and consider them with candour; remembering how deeply the happiness of millions may be concerned in the issue. If what they offer be such as *freemen* ought to accept; my voice shall be for an immediate reconciliation; as I know of no object so worthy of a patriot as the healing our wounds, and the restoring of peace, if it has for its basis an *effectual* security for the liberties of America. If, on the contrary, the terms which may be offered should be such as we cannot accept, we have only to say so, and the negotiation will be at an end.

"When I consider that this treaty is to be managed, on the part of America, by men delegated for their integrity and abilities by the voice of their country, I feel myself easy on that score. If the scheme of the Ministry be to try the *arts of corruption* where their arms cannot prevail, there are other and less suspicious ways of carrying it into execution than by commissioners, in the face of America, where they will have the eyes of all fixed upon them, and their conduct diligently watched, and severely scrutinized.——Upon the whole, it appears that this writer is more an enemy to the business on which the commissioners are to be sent, than really apprehensive for our virtue. He seems to be inimical to whatever carries the appearance of *peace*, and too ready to sacrifice the happiness of a great continent to his favourite plan. Among such writers I pretend not to class myself; for I am bold to declare, and hope yet to make it evident to every honest man, that the true interest of America lies in *reconciliation* with Great Britain, upon *constitutional principles*, and I can truly say I wish it upon no other terms.

"Why the many publications in favour of *independency*, with which our presses have lately groaned, have passed hitherto unnoticed, I am not able to determine. But there are certainly times when public affairs become so interesting that every man becomes a debtor to the community for his opinions, either in speaking or writing. Perhaps it was thought best, where an *appeal* was pretended to be made to the COMMON SENSE of this country, to leave the people for a while to the free exercise of that good understanding which they are known to possess. Those who made the *appeal* have little cause to triumph in its success. If little notice has been taken of the publications concerning independence, it is neither owing to the popularity of the doctrine, the unanswerable nature of the argument, nor the fear of opposing them, as the vanity of the author would suggest. I am confident that nine tenths of the people of Pennsylvania yet abhor the doctrine.

"If we look back to the origin of the present controversy, it will appear that some among us, at least, have been constantly enlarging their views, and stretching them beyond their first bounds, till at length they have wholly changed their first ground. From the claim of Parliament to tax us sprung the first resistance on our part. Before that unjust claim was set on foot, not an individual, not one of all the profound legislators with which this country abounds, ever held out the idea of independence. We considered our connexion with Great Britain as our chief happiness; we flourished, grew rich, and populous, to a degree not to be paralelled in history. Let us then act the part of skilful physicians, and wisely adopt the remedy to the evil.

"Possibly some men may have harboured the idea of independence from the beginning of this controversy. Indeed it was strongly suspected there were individuals whose views tended that way; but as the scheme was not sufficiently ripened, it was reckoned slanderous, inimical to America, and what not, to intimate the least suspicion of this kind.

"Nor have many weeks yet elapsed since the first open proposition for independence was published to the world. By what men of consequence this scheme is supported, or whether by any, may possibly be the subject of future inquiry. Certainly it has no countenance from the Congress, to whose sentiments we look up with reverence. On the contrary, it is directly repugnant to every declaration of that respectable body. It would be needless to quote particular passages in proof of this, as they are to be met with in almost every page of their proceedings. I will refer to a few only, *viz.* their resolves, March 5, 1775; their declaration, July 9; their address to the King, July 8; their letter to the Lord Mayor; and more especially their declaration for a fast, June 12, in which, with the deepest marks of sincerity, they call from all America to join with them in addressing the great Governor of the world, "humbly beseeching him to avert the desolating judgments with which we are threatened, to bless our rightful Sovereign, *&c.* that so America may soon behold a gracious interposition of heaven for the redress of her many grievances, the restoration of her invaded rights, and reconciliation with the parent state, on terms constitutional and honourable to both." Will any one be so hardy as to say, that either the appointment or observation of this solemn day was a mere mockery of heaven and earth, or even that any American joined in it who was not sincere? I trust not. But if multiplying authorities were of any use, I might add the sentiments of our own representatives in Assembly, expressed in the instructions to their Delegates; the sentiments of Maryland, in similar instructions; the resolves of New Jersey and New Hampshire; nor shall the much injured province of Massachusetts Bay be left out of the catalogue, whose provincial congress, while yet bleeding with the wounds received at Lexington, thus addressed the inhabitants of Great Britain: "These are marks of ministerial vengeance against this colony, but they have not yet detached us from our royal Sovereign, *&c.* trusting, that, in a *constitutional* connexion with the mother country, we shall soon be a free and happy people." These were the sentiments of the colony of the Massachusetts Bay, signed by that great martyr to liberty, Dr. Warren, and soon after sealed with his blood. The sentiments of sundry other colonies might be shewn to have corresponded with these. Upon the whole, I doubt not to make it appear, that independence is not the cause in which America is *now* engaged in, and is only the idol of those who wish to subvert all order among us, and rise on the ruins of their country.

"I have, in my second letter, freely declared my *political creed*, viz. "That the true interest of America lies in *reconciliation* with Great Britain, upon constitutional principles, and that I wish it upon none else." I now proceed to give my reasons for this declaration. It is fit, in so great a question, that you should weigh both sides well, and exercise that good sense for which the inhabitants of these colonies have been hitherto distinguished; and then I shall be under no apprehensions concerning the pernicious, though specious plans, which are every day published in our news-papers and pamphlets. The people generally judge right, when the whole truth is plainly laid before them; but through inattention in some, and fondness for novelty in others, when but one side of a proposition is agitated and persevered in, they may gradually deceive themselves, and adopt what cooler reflection, and future dear-bought experience, may prove to be ruinous.

"Agriculture and commerce have hitherto been the happy employments by which these *middle colonies* have risen into wealth and importance. By them the face of the country has been changed from a barren wilderness into the hospitable abodes of peace and plenty. Without them, we had either never existed as Americans, or existed only as savages. The oaks would still have possessed their native spots of earth, and never have appeared in the form of ships and houses. What are now well cultivated fields, or flourishing cities, would have remained only the solitary haunts of wild beasts, or of men equally wild.

"That such of our former felicity was owing to the protection of England is not to be denied; and that we might still derive great advantages from her protection and friendship, if not valued at too high a price, is equally certain; nor is it worth inquiring, whether that protection was afforded us more for her own sake than ours. That the former was the case, more especially since the colonies grew into consequence, I have not the least doubt; but that this is a reason for our rejecting any future connection with her I must utterly deny. Although I consider her as having, in her late conduct towards us, acted the part of a cruel *step-dame*, and not of a fostering parent, I would not therefore quarrel with the benefits I may reap from a connection with her, and can expect to reap no where else. If, by her fleets and armies, every nation upon the globe is deterred from invading our properties, either on the high seas, in foreign countries, or on our own coasts, ought we not in sound policy to profit by her strength; and, without regarding the motives of her conduct, embrace the opportunity of becoming rich and powerful in her friendship, at an expence far less than it would cost us merely to exist in alliance with any other power?

"If our present differences can be accommodated, there is scarce a probability that she will ever renew the late fatal system of policy, or attempt to employ force against us. But should she be so infatuated, at any future period, as to think of subjugating us, either by the arts of corruption, or oppressive exertions of power, can we entertain a doubt but that we shall again, with a virtue equal to the present, and with the weapons of defence in our hands (when necessary) convince her that we are willing, by a constitutional connection with her, to afford and receive reciprocal benefits; but, although subjects of the same King, we will not consent to be her slaves? It was on *this ground*, and not for the purpose of trying new forms of government, "or erecting "separate independent states," that America embarked in the present glorious contest. On *this ground*, and upon none else, the *continental union* is formed. On this ground, we have a powerful support among the true sons of liberty in Great Britain; and lastly, upon this ground, we have the utmost assurance of obtaining a full redress of our grievances, and an ample security against any future violation of our just rights. And if hereafter, in the fulness of time, it shall be necessary to separate from the land that gave birth to our ancestors, it will be in our state of perfect manhood, when we can fully weild our own arms, and protect our commerce and coasts by our own fleets, without looking to any nation upon earth for assistance.

"This I say was our ground, and these our views, universally declared from the origin of this contest, till within a few weeks ago, when some gleams of reconciliation began first to break in upon us. If we now mean to change this ground, and reject all propositions of *peace*, from that moment we are deserted by every advocate of our cause in Great Britain. We falsify every declaration which the Congress hath heretofore held forth in our behalf. We abandon all prospect of preserving our importance by trade and agriculture, the ancient, sure, and experienced road to wealth and happiness.

"In short, if thus contradicting all our former public professions, we should now effect *independency* as our own act, before it appears clearly to the world to have been forced upon us by the cruel hand of the parent state, we could neither hope for *union* nor *success* in the attempt. We must be considered as a faithless people in the sight of all mankind, and could scarcely expect the confidence of any nation upon earth, or look up to Heaven for its approving sentence. On the contrary, every convulsion attendant upon revolutions and innovations of Government, untimely attempted, or finally defeated, might be our portion; added to the loss of trade for want of protection; the consequent decay of husbandry; bloodshed and desolation; with an exchange of the easy and flourishing condition of farmers and merchants, for a life, at best, of hardy poverty as *soldiers* or *hunters*.

"To see America reduced to such a situation may be the choice of adventurers who have nothing to lose, or men exalted by the present confusions in *lucrative* offices, which they can hold no longer than the continuance of the public calamities. But can it be the wish of all that great and valuable body of people in America, who, by honest industry, have acquired a competency, and have experienced a happy life? Can it be their wish, I say (for such considerations) to have destruction continually before their eyes; and to have enormous debts entailed upon them and their posterity, till at length they have nothing left which they can truly call their own?

"I know the answers which will be given to these questions, and am prepared to reply to them, with that temper and gravity which so serious a subject requires. It will be *asserted* (indeed it has been already *asserted*) that the animosities between Great Britain and the colonies are now advanced to such a height that RECONCILIATION is impossible. But *assertions* are nothing, when opposed to the nature of things, the truth of history, and all past experience. The quarrels of nations, being neither *personal* or *private*, cannot stir up mutual hatred among individuals. There never was a war so implacable, even among states naturally rivals and enemies, or among savages themselves, as not to have *peace* for its object as well as end! And, among people naturally friends, and connected by every dearer tie, who knows not that their quarrels (as those of *lovers*) are often but a stronger renewal of *love?* In such cases, the tide of affection reverting to its course is like that of water long pent back, which, at length bursting the opposing mounds, breaks forward through its native channel, and flows with redoubled vigor and increased volocity, to mix itself with its parent main!

It has been further asserted, that we are able, with our land forces, to defend ourselves against the whole world; that if commerce be an advantage, we may command what foreign alliances we please; that the moment we declare ourselves an *independent people*, there are nations ready to face the British thunder, and become the carriers of our commodities for the sake of enriching themselves; that, if this were not the case, we can soon build navies to force and protect a trade; that a confederacy of the colonies into one great *republic* is preferable to *Kingly government*, which is the appointment of the *devil*, or at least reprobated by GOD; that those denominated *wise men*, in our own and foreign countries, who have been so lavish of their encomiums upon the English constitution, were but egregious *fools*; that it is nothing better than a bungling piece of machinery, standing in need of constant *checks* to regulate and continue its motions; that the nation itself is but one mass of corruption, having at its head a *royal brute*, a hardened *Pharoh*, delighting in blood; that we never can enjoy liberty in connection with such a country, and therefore all the hardships mentioned above, and a thousand times more, if necessary, are to be endured for the preservation of our rights.

"If these things had been as fully proved, as they are boldly asserted by the authors of what is called COMMON SENSE, I should here drop my pen, and through the short remainder of life take my chance of whatever miseries Providence may have in reserve for this land, as I know of none else to which I can retire. But as these doctrines contradict every thing which we have hitherto been taught to believe respecting Government, I hope you, my dear countrymen, have yet kept *one ear open* to hear what answer may be given in my future letters."

CATO.

CAMBRIDGE, *March* 21.

LAST Sabbath the British army in Boston, under General Howe, consisting of upwards of 7000 men, after suffering an ignominious blockade for many months past, disgracefully quitted all their strong holds in Boston and Charlestown, fled from before the army of the United Colonies, and took refuge on board their ships. The most material particulars of this signal event are as follow: About 9 o'clock a body of the enemy were seen to march from Bunker's Hill, and at the same time a very great number of boats, filled with troops, put off from Boston, and made for the shipping, which mostly lay below the Castle.

On the first discovery of these movements, the continental army immediately paraded, several regiments embarked in boats, and proceeded down the river from this place. About the same time two men were sent to Bunker's Hill, in order to make discoveries. They proceeded accordingly; and, when arrived, making a signal that the fort was evacuated, a detachment was immediately sent down from the army, to take possession of it. The troops in the river, which were commanded by General Putnam, landed at Sewall's Point; where they received intelligence that all the British troops had left Boston; on which a detachment was sent to take possession of the town, while the main body returned up the river. About the same time General Ward, attended by about 500 troops from Roxbury, under the command of Colonel Ebenezer Learned (who unbarred and opened the gates) entered the town on that quarter, Ensign Richards carrying the standard. The command of the whole being then given to General Putnam, he proceeded to take possession of all the important posts, and thereby became possessed, in the name of the Thirteen United Colonies of North America, of all the fortresses in that large and once populous and flourishing metropolis, which the flower of the British army, headed by an experienced General, and supported by a formidable fleet of men of war, had, but an hour before, evacuated in the most precipitate and cowardly manner. It was found that a great part of the evacuated houses had been pillaged, the furniture broken and destroyed, and many of the buildings greatly damaged. It is worthy of notice, however, that the buildings belonging to the Hon. Mr. Hancock, particularly his elegant mansion-house, were left in good order. All the linen and woollen goods, except some that might be secreted, were carried off by the enemy. All the salt and molasses, which they could find, were destroyed. The enemy also destroyed great quantities of effects belonging to themselves, which they could not carry away, such as gun carriages, and other carriages of various kinds, house furniture, &c. together with a quantity of flour and hay. All their forts, batteries, redoubts, and breast works remain entire and complete; they left many of their heaviest cannon, mounted on carriages, and several of them charged; all of them were either spiked up or had a trunnion beat off. They also left several of their largest mortars. Quantities of cannon shot, shells, numbers of small arms, and other instruments of war, have been found in many parts of the town, thrown off the wharfs, concealed in vaults, or broken in pieces. In the fort on Bunker's Hill several hundred good blankets were found. It is said, about 15 or 20 of the King's horses have been also taken up in the town; and it is thought, about the same number of Tories remain behind, all the rest being gone with the fleet.

The enemy, previous to their going off, scattered great numbers of crows feet on Boston Neck, and in the streets, in order to retard our troops in case of a pursuit; and with such silence and precaution did they embark, that a great part of the inhabitants did not know it till after they were gone. The prisoners, who were long confined in goal, were cruelly carried off in irons.

Tuesday evening the enemy set fire to the block-house and barracks at the Castle, and yesterday they were employed at the same place in blowing up and demolishing the fortifications.

The enemy's fleet, consisting of about 100 sail, still lie between the Castle and Nantasket.

NEW YORK, *March* 28.

BY the Albany post we are informed, that letters had just come to hand in Albany, informing, that Governor Carleton, one morning, had shot 17 of his men for refusing to fight: That the few forces under his command, as well as the people in general in Quebec, were much divded: That our forces amounted to 5700 men, and many on their march, which, when joined, would augment our army to upwards of 6000; and that our troops were to storm the city the 20th of March.

Thursday about 1000 rifle-men arrived here from Boston; and Saturday last Brigadier General Heath, with Stark's, Webb's, Bond's, Patterson's, and Greton's regiments, arrived here from the same place, by way of New London. Part of Col. Dayton's battalion from Elizabeth town, and several Companies from Connecticut, came to town last week also. So that we have here about 8000 men.

Extract of a letter from CAMBRIDGE.

"Colonel Mifflin had yesterday an interview with Major Small, who informed him, that they expected the commissioners to treat with the Congress, and that the Duke of Grafton was one of them. He also informed him, that they (in Boston) heard that General Clinton and his troops were taken."

PHILADELPHIA, *April* 1.

IN CONGRESS, *March* 23, 1776.

WHEREAS the petitions of these united colonies to the King, for the redress of great and manifest grievances, have not only been rejected, but treated with scorn and contempt, and the opposition to designs evidently formed to reduce them to a state of servile subjection, and their necessary defence against hostile forces actually employed to subdue them, declared rebellion: And whereas an unjust war hath been commenced against them, which the commanders of the British fleets and armies have prosecuted, and still continue to prosecute, with their utmost vigor, and in a cruel manner wasting, spoiling, and destroying the country, burning houses and defenceless towns, and exposing the helpless inhabitants to every misery from the inclemency of the winter, and not only urging savages to invade the country, but instigating Negroes to murder their masters: And whereas the Parliament of Great Britain hath lately passed an act, affirming these colonies to be in open rebellion; forbidding all trade and commerce with the inhabitants thereof, until they accept pardons, and submit to despotic rule; declaring their property, wherever found upon the water, liable to seizure and confiscation; and enacting, that what had been done there, by virtue of the royal authority, were just and lawful acts, and shall be so deemed: From all which it is manifest, that the iniquitous scheme, concerted to deprive them of the liberty they have a right to by the laws of nature, and the English constitution, will be pertinaciously pursued. It being, therefore, necessary to provide for their defence and security, and justifiable to make reprisals upon their enemies, and otherwise to annoy them, according to the laws and usages of nations. The Congress trusting that such of their friends in Great Britain (of whom it is confessed there are many entitled to applause and gratitude for their patriotism and benevolence, and in whose favour a discrimination of property cannot be made) as shall suffer by captures, will impute it to the authors of our common calamities, DO DECLARE AND RESOLVE as followeth, *to wit*,

RESOLVED, that the inhabitants of these colonies be permitted to fit out armed vessels, to cruise on the enemies of these united colonies.

RESOLVED, that all ships and other vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and all goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of Great Britain, taken on the high seas, or between high and low water mark, by any armed vessel fitted out by any private person or persons, and to whom commissions shall be granted, and being libelled and prosecuted in any court erected for the trial of maritime affairs in any of these colonies, shall be deemed and adjudged to be lawful prize; and, after deducting and paying the wages the seamen and mariners on board such captures as are merchant ships and vessels, shall be entitled to according to the terms of their contracts, until the time of the adjudication, shall be condemned to and for the use of the owner or owners, and the officers, marines, and mariners of such armed vessel, according to such rules and proportions as they shall agree on. Provided always, that this resolution shall not extend, or be construed to extend, to any vessel bringing settlers, arms, ammunition, or warlike stores, to and for the use of these colonies, or any of the inhabitants thereof, who are friends to the American cause, or to such warlike stores, or to the effects of such settlers.

RESOLVED, that all ships or vessels with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant of Great Britain as aforesaid, which shall be taken by any of the vessels of war of these united colonies, shall be deemed forfeited; one third, after deducting and paying the wages of seamen and mariners as aforesaid, to the officers and men on board, and two thirds to the use of the united colonies.

RESOLVED, that all ships or vessels with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant of Great Britain as aforesaid, which shall be taken by any vessel of war fitted out by, and at the expence of any of, the united colonies, shall be deemed forfeited, and divided, after deducting and paying the wages of seamen and mariners as aforesaid, in such manner and proportion as the Assembly or Convention of such colony shall direct.

RESOLVED, that all vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and cargoes belonging to inhabitants of Great Britain as aforesaid, and all vessels which may be employed in carrying supplies to the ministerial armies, which shall happen to be taken near the shores of any of these colonies, by the people of the country, or detachments from the army, shall be deemed lawful prize; and the Court of Admiralty, within the said colony, is required on condemnation thereof, to adjudge, that all charges and expences which may attend the capture and trial, be first paid out of the monies arising from the sales of the prize, and the remainder equally divided among all those who shall have been actually engaged and employed in taking the said prize: Provided, that where any detachments of the army shall have been employed as aforesaid, their part of the prize money shall be distributed among them, in proportion to the pay of the officers and soldiers so employed.

Extract from the minutes

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'ry.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman in ST. MARY'S *county, to his friend in* BALTIMORE, *March* 14, 1776.

"We have just taken an oyster boat, with six men on board, and on search, found five British muskets concealed in the boat; the men have been strictly examined, and it appears they came from Virginia, and were bound to Baltimore, and had oysters on board to further their intended purpose, being employed by that infamous tool of Government, Lord Dunmore, as spies, to collect information from and inquire into the Situation of your town, and take a view of your fortifications, &c. They are all properly confined. It is hoped you will keep a good look out, and carefully examine all suspected vessels and men."

WILLIAMSBURG, *April* 13.

ON Sunday the 30th ult. the sloop Liberty, of Perth Amboy, from St. Eustatia, with 83 barrels of gunpowder, 21 bales of dry goods, and two hogsheads of medicines, was taken by a tender, off the capes of Philadelphia, and carried into Norfolk. The Captain, and three passengers, are made close prisoners. The mate escaped; he says he was at Antigua, where were 7000 British troops, making preparations to sail to some part of the continent; that the Roebuck, and another man of war (which he supposed was the Mercury) at the time he was taken, lay in Delaware bay; that there were so many tenders cruising upon the coast, and the caitiffs on board so very vigilant since the proclamation came over directing the distribution of the prizes, that it was almost impossible for any vessel to escape them; and that the people on board the tender informed him the American fleet was at Charlestown, consisting of eleven sail.

We were informed yesterday that the Governor had taken a French sloop (probably it is the same we mentioned in our last) from Martinico, with two engineers on board, a considerable quantity of gunpowder, and 150 or 200 stands of arms.

This week Robert Carter Nicholas and William Norvel, Esquires, were elected Delegates to represent the county of James City in Convention; John Blair, Esq; for the college of William and Mary; and Champion Travis, Esq; for Jamestown. Patrick Henry and John Syme, Esquires, are chosen for Hanover; and Bartholomew Dandridge and William Clayton, Esquires, for New Kent.

Brigadier General Armstrong, who arrived here a few days ago from New York, set out last Thursday for North Carolina.

As none of the judges for holding the General Court of this colony attended at the Capitol on the 10th instant (which was the established time) the Court is of consequence dissolved.

Some of the tenders, it is reported, have seized a ship loaded with wheat and flour, coming down the bay, which is imagined to be the same that the Defence rescued from the Otter near Baltimore; but this wants confirmation. They took a brig yesterday morning within sight of York town.

Two of the Negroes who mistook one of our armed vessels at Jamestown for a tender, and expressed their inclination to serve Lord Dunmore, are under sentence of death, and will be executed in a few days, as an example to others.

Deaths.] Captain THOMAS RUFFIN of the 7th regiment of Virginia forces on continental establishment, stationed in this city.

IN CONVENTION, SATURDAY, *Jan.* 20, 1776.

RESOLVED, as the opinion of this Convention, that we hold it incumbent upon us, a duty which we owe to ourselves, to our country, and to this whole continent, to oppose, by every method in our power, such unjust and cruel attempts; that the most likely means of effecting this, and of gaining relief and assistance to ourselves, and of distressing our enemies, would be by opening our ports to all persons willing to trade with us, *Great Britain, Ireland*, and the *British West Indies*, excepted; and that we give it in recommendation to our Delegates in General Congress to use their endeavours to have such a measure adopted, and carried into execution, so soon as it shall be deemed proper by the said General Congress to permit exportation from *North America*.

☞ *The Ordinance of Convention directs a meeting of the Delegates on the first* Monday *in* May *annually, and it is expected there will be a full meeting, as matters of the greatest importance are to come under immediate consideration. It may not be amiss to refer all concerned, to the ordinance, for the form and time of returns.*

Advertisements.

WILLIAMSBURG, *April* 13, 1776.

THE Freeholders of *York* County are desired to attend at the Courthouse on *Monday* next, that being the Day appointed for Election of Delegates for said County, agreeable to Ordinance of Convention.

W. RUSSELL, Clk. Com.

PETERSBURG, *April* 8, 1776.

THE Subscriber has on Hand a few Quarter Casks of fine old LISBON WINE, which he will dispose of on very reasonable Terms, for ready Money.

EDWARD STABLER.

THE People called Quakers, and several charitable Persons not of their Society, commiserating the Sufferings of many of the late Inhabitants of *Norfolk*, who are reduced to Poverty and Want by the Destruction of that Town, and having collected some Provisions for their Relief, were sending them down by Water, with Persons deputed to distribute them, but finding it disagreeable to General *Lee*, hereby give Notice, that these Provisions will be stored at some safe Place up *James* River, for the Use of such poor Inhabitants as may stand in Need, at the Disposition of *Joseph Scott* in *Nansemond*, *Anselm Bailey* in *Surry*, *John Crew* in *Charles City*, *Robert Pleasants* in *Henrico*, the Rev. *William Harrison*, and *Edward Stabler*, in *Petersburg*.

TO BE SOLD,

THE Houses and Lots wherein the Subscriber now lives, in the Town of *Petersburg*, consisting of a large Dwelling-House, Storehouse, and all convenient Outhouses, in good Repair; a large Garden and Pasture adjoining, and the Situation equal to any in the Colony for Business. It is so well known, that a particular Description is unnecessary. Also a few House Servants, Household Furniture, &c. a Lot in the Town of *Petersburg*, and 400 Acres of good Tobacco Land in *Charlotte*. The Purchasers may have Possession immediately, and the Payment made easy by giving approved Security.——As I intend leaving the Colony, those who have any Demands against me are desired to apply for Payment; and all Persons indebted, it is hoped, will either discharge their Accounts, or think it reasonable to give Security.

As the Purchasers of the Land in *Ward's Fork*, belonging to *John Lidderdale*, Esq; of *London*, are in some doubt of their having a Right, this is to inform them, that the Deeds will be sent, properly executed, with an Acknowledgment of Mrs. *Lidderdale*'s Right of Dower, when the Times will admit of an Opportunity, and may be assured of having a most undoubted Title made them. They will likewise please to observe, that the Deeds will not be recorded till the Money is paid, agreeable to the Terms of Sale. And if any of the Purchasers are in Doubt of my being properly authorised to make Sale of the Lands, they may be fully satisfied at the Secretary's Office, where the Power of Attorney is recorded.

RICHARD HANSON.

THE NOTED HORSE

REGULUS,

Late the Property of WILLIAM FITZHUGH, *Esq; of* Chatham,

NOW stands at the *Falls* Plantation, in *Chesterfield*, in high Perfection, and will cover Mares this Season at 30s. the Leap ready Money, or Merchants Notes, and 4l. the Season, for which Notes on Demand, or Merchants Orders, will be expected before the Mares are taken away, when a Discount of 15 *per Cent.* may be had on prompt Payment. Ensurance 6l. The Mares by the Season will run in as fine Pasture as any in the Colony, and all possible Care will be taken of them, but I will not be answerable for Escapes, or any that may be stolen.

REGULUS is a beautiful Bay, full sized, well marked, and remarkable for getting fine Foals, both as to Beauty and Size. He was bred by the late Col. *Baylor*, and got by his Horse FEARNOUGHT, out of JENNY DISMAL, who was got by old DISMAL; he won 1000 Guineas Sweepstakes, and five King's Plates, without ever being once beaten. His Sire was the GODOLPHIN ARABIAN. JENNY DISMAL's DAM was got by Lord *Godolphin*'s WHITEFOOT.

REGULUS, while the Property of Mr. *Fitzhugh*, won 50l. at *Port Royal*, at *Annapolis* two 50 pounds (where he beat the famous running Horse APOLLO, and the first Rate Horses of *Maryland*) at *Upper Marlbrough* 50l. at *Leeds* Town 60l. and at *Fredericksburg* the Jockey Club of 100 Guineas, at which Time he carried 10 Stone; and, although a covering Horse, he beat Mr. *Page*'s Horse DAMON, Mr. *Brent*'s Horse FIGURE, Mr. *Spotswood*'s Horse ECLIPSE, and several others.

WILLIAM BLACK.

☞ It was, in some Measure, necessary to be thus particular, to distinguish this Horse from one of the same Name who lately stood in this Neighbourhood.

YORICK,

IN high Health, and great Perfection, stands at his usual Place (*Mount Airy*) to cover Mares at the Price of 3l. 5s. Pasturage given, but no Ensurance against Escapes.

JOHN WHELDON.

WILLIAMSBURG, *April* 13, 1776.

THOSE Gentlemen who are still indebted to the Estate of Mrs. *Clementina Rind*, deceased, and Mr. *John Pinkney*, for Gazettes, &c. are desired to be so obliging as to send their respective Balances by the Hands of those Gentleman who are chosen Delegates for the respective Counties, as they are expected to meet here the Beginning of next Month. This will be acknowledged as a particular Favour, as there are many large Debts still due from the said Estate. Proper Accounts and Receipts will be delivered to the Persons who settle with

Their very humble Servant,

JACOB BRUCE,

For the Administrator.

☞ Thirteen Months Gazette due Mrs. *Rind*'s Estate, 13/6; sixteen Ditto due Mr. *John Pinkney*, 16/8.

STRAYED from *Williamsburg*, the first of this Instant *(April)* a rusty black Mare about 13 Hands and a Half high, with a hanging Mane and Switch Tail, paces slowly, and branded on the near Buttock WW in a Piece. It is expected she will make for *Hanover*, where she was bred. Whoever delivers her to *George Dabney*, Junior, in *Hanover*, shall have a Reward of 20s.

STOLEN from the Subscriber, on his March from *Augusta* to *Williamsburg*, at *New Kent* Courthouse, on *Monday* the 9th Instant, a very neat RIFLE GUN, the Stock of Sugar Tree curled, made pretty dark by Aquafortis, a Brass Box and Brass wire, flourished in the Breech, and *John Grattan* on the Barrel, below the hind Sight. I hereby forewarn any Person from purchasing the said Gun, and will give any Person 20s. who will deliver her to the Printers hereof, and I promise that no Questions shall be asked.

JOHN GRATTAN.

STRAYED, or STOLEN, from *Williamsburg*, a pied MARE, with Wall Eyes, and a sorrel MARE, both with Switch Tails, lately sent down by Post from *King William*, their Brands, if any, unknown. Whoever delivers them to me in the aforesaid County, or to the Printers of this Paper, shall have 10s Reward for each.

EDWARD VALENTINE, Senior.

POETS CORNER.

The MOURNER. *A Medley.*

AS hypocrites flatter and sooth,
The persons bewitch'd by their cant,
Whose tongues are glib, oily, and smooth,
While their hands in your purses they want;
Their aim is your substance, not you,
Though pious pretence they suggest;
False tongues they are call'd in God's word,
And them with sore plagues he'll infest.
Long custom her pattern has drawn,
And black is the signal of grief;
Too many but seemingly mourn,
And inwardly soon find relief;
The reason is obvious and plain,
They get by the death of their friend,
And by shewing their motive is gain,
Their sorrow soon comes to an end.
To mourn for the dead, as a loss,
A true loving friend can't forbear;
Yet submissively takes up his cross,
And to JESUS commits all his care;
He coolly and calmy does wait
For the hour appointed above,
Which releases him out of this state,
And restores to the kingdom of love.

TREASURY OFFICE, April 6, 1776.

PURSUANT to the Directions of the General Convention, I have appointed Mr. John H. Norton *to sign the new Treasury Notes of the Denomination of* 12*s.* 6*d.* 10*s.* *and* 5*s. in the Room of Major* Josiah Parker, *who is engaged in other public Service. Mr.* Norton, *with Major* George Lyne, *will also sign the Bills of* 20*s.*

N. B. *It is hoped, and expected, that the Sheriffs, Clerks, and Inspectors will,* without Fail, *settle all their Accounts, and pay the several Balances due to the Treasury in the Course of this Month, as* no Indulgencies *can be given.*

RO. C. NICHOLAS, Treasurer.

NORTHUMBERLAND, *April* 3, 1776.

I intend to leave the Colony

immediately. WILLIAM FORSYTH.

To be SOLD, *at* STRATFORD,

A CONSIDERABLE Part of the personal Estate of the late Hon. *Philip Ludwell Lee*, Esq; consisting of Household and Kitchen Furniture, and sundry other Articles too tedious to particularize. The Sale will begin on *Monday* the 15th of *April*, if fair; otherwise next fair Day, and continue until the Whole is sold. Twelve Months Credit will be allowed, on Bond and Security, for all Articles above 40*s.* but on Failure of punctual Payment, the Bonds to carry Interest from the Day of Sale.

THE ADMINISTRATORS.

WARWICK, *March* 20, 1776.

I INTEND to leave the Colony immediately, and expect to return in a few Months. Any person who has a Demand against me may receive Payment on Application to Mr. *David Leitch*, Merchant at *Warwick*, and his Receipt will be valid against me for any Sums that it may be convenient for those who are in my Debt to pay in my Absence.——Mr. *Leitch* has a genteel Mulatto Servant, about 17 Years old, and two valuable Horses, for Sale, on easy Terms.

HENRY B. LIGHTFOOT.

WILLIAMSBURG, *April* 6, 1776.

FOUND, last *Sunday*, by a Negro Man of mine, a 5*l.* Bill. The Owner, on proving his Property, and paying Charges, may have it again by applying to

2 JAMES COCKE.

MARCH 25, 1776.

ALL Persons indebted to me are requested to make Payment as soon as possible to Mr. *Robert Hart* of *Spotsylvania*, and those who have Demands against me unsatisfied are desired to apply. MALCOLM HART.

PETERSBURG, *March* 28, 1776.

WHEREAS there are many Accounts still unsettled on the Books at our Store in *Charlotte*, formerly kept by Mr. *Samuel Wimbish*, but by Mr. *William Barksdale* since last Fall, who has still full Power to settle and adjust the same, to pay and receive, and grant Acquittances; and as Mr. *Wimbish* is about to leave the Colony (in Order to prevent future Disputes) all those that have open Accounts on the Books are desired to apply immediately, and adjust the same, as no Discount, otherwise than what are on the Books, will be allowed after his Departure.

WILLIAM CALL,
(‖) Survivor of *Field & Call.*

ALL Persons who have any Claims against the Estate of Col. *Robert Bolling*, deceased, late of *Buckingham*, are requested to bring them in to Col. *William Fleming*, or *Archibald Bolling*, Esquire.

2 THOMAS FLEMING.

CHARLES CITY, *March* 25, 1776.

I SOME Time ago was unfortunate enough to marry a Woman by the Name of *Mary Maria Milmount Parris*, but have since found her right Name was *Elizabeth Beaver*. Finding myself thus imposed upon, and her Conduct different from that of a good Woman, I have separated from her, and hereby forewarn all Persons from crediting her on my Account, as I will pay no Debt of her contracting.

JOHN KERR.

PRINCE GEORGE, *April* 1, 1776.

I intend to leave the Colony

soon. ‖ THOMAS ROBERTSON.

STRAYED, or STOLEN, from Mr. *James Hunter*'s Pasture in *King George*, a large BAY MARE, 5 Years old, not branded, shod all Fours, has a Star in her Forehead, both hind Feet white, and a hanging Mane, and Switch Tail. Whoever delivers her to the Subscriber, in *Fredericksburg*, shall have 20*s.* Reward, and reasonable Charges.

4‖ JAMES HUNTER, Junior.

RUN away from the Subscriber, in *Halifax* County, the 3d of *March*, in the Night Time, a Negro Fellow named DANIEL, about 35 Years of Age, straight made, talks plain, is blacker than common, bow-legged, has high Shins, a Scar on the Top of one of his Feet, occasioned by a Burn, is about 5 Feet 6 Inches high, and had on, when he went away, a *German* Serge Coat with white Shalloon Lining, white *Russia* Drill Breeches, and blue and white Stockings. As he is artful, I do not doubt but he has procured a forged Pass. He rode away a DARK BAY HORSE about 4 Feet 10 Inches high, 8 Years old, branded on the Shoulder with Something resembling P q, only that the Bottoms of the Letters are joined together; and had on an old Saddle, with a Hog Skin Seat. Whoever will deliver the said Negro to me shall receive ten Pounds Reward, and fifty Shillings for Horse and Saddle.

(‖) EVAN RAGLAND.

WARWICK, *March* 26, 1776.

I intend to leave the Colony

immediately. 2‖ CHRISTOPHER MILLAR.

STOLEN from the Subscriber, on the 17th of *March*, a DARK BAY MARE about 4 Feet 4 Inches high, 5 Years old this Summer, paces, trots, and gallops. She is not branded, but has a remarkable Scar on her Buttock, occasioned by a Burn. One of her hind Feet is white. Forty Shillings Reward will be given to any Person who delivers the said Mare to me in *Charles City*. LYDIA CREW.

TAKEN up, *in Lunenburg*, a DARK BAY MARE about 3 Years old, 4 Feet and an Inch high, has a little White on her hind Foot, a small Star in her Forehead, and branded on the near Buttock IC. (‖) JOHN ARVIN

Just come to Hand, and to be SOLD at this PRINTING-OFFICE,

A large and exact VIEW of the late

BATTLE at CHARLESTOWN,

Elegantly coloured, Price one Dollar.

Also an excellent MAP of

The present SEAT of CIVIL WAR,

Taken by an able Draughtsman who was on the Spot at the late Engagement. Price one Dollar.

ROSEGILL, *March* 16, 1776.

KING HEROD

STANDS here, and will cover Mares the ensuing Season at the usual Price, 4*l.* each Mare. He is in high Order; great Care will be taken of the Mares, but should any stray away, and be lost, they will not be answered for.

TO BE SOLD,
A VALUABLE

NEGRO MAN

About 25 Years of Age, who is a good Hostler, Gardener, and House Servant.----Inquire of the Printers.

MARCH 26, 1776.

THE Subscribers to the Fund for Relief of Clergymen's Widows and Orphans are to meet on *Saturday* the 11th of *May* next. Their Officers for the present Year are the Rev. Messr. *Adam Smyth*, *Thomas Feild*, *William Harrison*, *Alexander White*, *Henry Skyring*, and *Samuel Klug*, Trustees; the Rev. *Thomas Davies* Morning, and the Rev. *Samuel Sheild* Afternoon Preacher; and the Rev. *John Camm* Treasurer.

By Order.

JACOB BRUCE, Clerk.

MANCHESTER, *March* 20, 1776.

I intend to leave the Colony

soon. ‖ PETER SHIRREFF.

PETERSBURG, *March* 21, 1776.

We intend to leave the Colony

soon. WILLIAM KENNEDY.
‖ JAMES BROWN.

LOUISA, *March* 18, 1776.

RUN away from the Subscriber, on the 16th Instant, a likely Negro Fellow named JACOB, who is about 5 Feet 5 or 6 Inches high, 30 Years old, square and well made, is very black, and has a down Look; had on, and took with him, a coarse blue Cloth great Coat, a fine brown mixed coloured Broadcloth Body Coat, double-breasted scarlet Cloth Waistcoat, a Pair of very good Buckskin Breeches, knit Yarn Stockings, very good Hat and Shoes, and also several Shirts of white and brown Linen, and some Money. He was born in *Pennsylvania*, bred a Farmer, pretends to great Skill in Farriery, speaks in the *Scotch-Irish* Dialect, and in Conversation frequently uses the Words *moreover* and *likewise*; and as he can read and write, will probably forge a Pass. Whoever takes up said Slave, and secures him so that his Master may get him again, shall have 40*s.* if taken in *Louisa*, *Albemarle*, or *Orange*; if in any other County in the Colony 5*l.* and if taken out of the Colony 10*l.* paid by

DAVID HOOPS.

TAKEN up, in *Lunenburg*, thirteen HOGS, about two Years old, marked with a Crop in each Ear, an Underkeel in the left, and an Overkeel in the right; they are spotted black, white, and blue. Posted, and appraised to 6*l.* 10*s.*

‖ WILLIAM BARRY.

TAKEN up, in *Hanover* County, seven SHEEP, namely, a black Ewe, marked with a Crop in the left Ear, and a Crop and Slit in the right; a white Ewe, with a Crop and Swallowfork in the left Ear, and a Crop in the right. These Ewes came to my Plantation the Summer before last, each with an unmarked Lamb, and the other three have been raised from them since. Posted, and appraised to 2*l.* 10*s.*

JOHN AUSTIN.

The noted swift Horse

TRISTRAM SHANDY,

NOW in full Health and Vigour, stands at *Beverley Plain*, in the lower End of *Caroline* County, and will cover Mares this Season at 50*s.* Good Pasturage gratis, and great Care will be taken of the Mares; but I will not be answerable for any that may get away.---- TRISTRAM SHANDY was got by *Morton*'s TRAVELLER, his Dam by JANUS, out of a fine *English* Mare.

4‖ JAMES UPSHAW.

RUN away from the Vineyard, a little below *Williamsburg*, a Negro Man named SAUNDY, 5 Feet 6 Inches high, about 27 Years old, knock kneed; had on, when he went away, a dark red *Newmarket* Coat. I have been informed he is lurking about *Williamsburg*. Whoever brings him to me shall have 15*s.* Reward, besides what the law allows.

tf ANDREW ESTAVE.

FEARNOUGHT

STANDS at *Hicks's Ford*, in *Brunswick* County, to cover at 40*s.* ready Money for a single Leap, or 6*l.* the Season, payable in *October* next. Good Pasturage, and Entertainment for Gentlemen's Servants, gratis; but I will not be liable for any Mares that may get away, or be stolen.

W. EDWARDS.

The celebrated high bred Horse

YOUNG FEARNOUGHT,

WILL stand at my Stable the ensuing Season, and cover Mares at 20*s.* the Leap, or 3*l.* Leap and Trial.----The Pedigree of this Horse is so well known as to make a Description needless. His Figure, together with the Size and Form of his Colts, are such as render him, in the Esteem of the best Judges, *deservedly* one of the best covering Horses in *America*. He is a fine Chestnut Sorrel, and full sized. Good Pasturage will be furnished for Mares, and great Care taken of them, but I will not be answerable for Accidents. Those Gentlemen who send Mares will be good enough to send the Money, or their Notes of Hand payable on Demand. WILLIAM GAY.

CUMBERLAND, *March* 1, 1776.

The beautiful high bred chestnut Horse

DAMON,

FULL 5 Feet 5 Inches high, and well proportioned, now rising 8 Years old, and in the highest Perfection, stands at my Plantation in *Gloucester* County, and will cover Mares at 4*l.* the Season, or 30*s.* the Leap. The Gentlemen who send Mares to him must send the Money, or promissory Notes payable on Demand; otherwise they will not be received. I have very fine Pastures for the Mares, and will have great Care taken of them, but will not be liable for any that may stray away.

NORTH *River*, GLOUCESTER *County*. } 6 MANN PAGE, Junior.

CYPHAX

STANDS at the Subscriber's Plantation in *James City*, and covers Mares at ten Shillings the Leap, twenty five Shillings the Season, and forty Shillings to ensure a Foal. He is just rising eight Years old, a beautiful Bay, fifteen Hands and an Inch high. He was got by the noted old Horse JANUS, out of an imported Mare. Good Pasturage *gratis*, but I will not be answerable for any Mares that may get away or die.

5‖ JOHN WALKER.

GODOLPHIN,

A BEAUTIFUL bright Bay, high blooded, about 6 Years old, and in great Perfection, stands at Mr. *John Baird*'s Plantation in *Prince George* County, near *Blandford*, to cover Mares the ensuing Season, at a Guinea the Leap ready Money, or 5*l.* by the Season payable in *October* 1777, but may be discharged by the Payment of 3*l.* in *December* next, or 4*l.* in *May* following. The Number of Mares put to *Godolphin*, since he has been allowed to cover, has gained him such Reputation, as well for the Certainty of his getting Colts, as for their Size and Beauty, that a further Description of him is needless.--I have procured two fine large Pastures, under excellent Fences, and the greatest Care will be taken of the Mares; but I will run no Risk. 8‖

THOMAS FEILD.

ROCKINGHAM,

A FINE bay Horse, 16 Hands high, and well proportioned, will stand at Capt. *William Denson*'s on *Cypress* Creek, in the lower End of *Bute* County, to cover Mares at 3*l.* the Season, or 30*s.* the Leap, *Virginia* Money. If Gentlemen will pay by the first of *October*, I will take 40*s.* the Season, and 20*s.* the Leap. Capt. *Denson* has good Pasturage for the Mares, and good Entertainment for Gentlemen *gratis*, and will use his utmost Endeavours to prevent any Mares getting away; but I will not be liable for any that may get away. JOHN WILLIS.

☞ ROCKINGHAM was got by PARTNER, upon an imported Mare belonging to Colonel *Thomas Nelson*, called BLOSSOM. PARTNER was got by the old *English* Horse TRAVELLER, upon the imported running Mare SELIMA. BLOSSOM was got by old SLOE, a famous King's Plate Horse; her Dam was a Mare belonging to Lord *Rockingham*, that won the King's Plate of a Hundred Guineas for five Years old Mares at *Hambleton*, in *Yorkshire*, and was got by REGULUS, the Sire of FEARNOUGHT. (11)

TO BE SOLD,

THE PLANTATION where I now live, containing 320 Acres of Land, situated about three Miles above *Petersburg*, whereon is a large new Brick Dwelling-House 54 Feet by 32, with four Rooms and a flush Passage below Stairs, and five Rooms above, very commodiously contrived, and the Building well executed; a Brick Kitchen 32 Feet by 16, two Rooms below and two above Stairs, with all other necessary Offices in good Repair, and several Orchards of the best Kinds of Fruit Trees. This Seat being well known, I think a more accurate Description unnecessary. The Time of Payment will be made easy to the Purchaser, and the Terms known by applying to Mr. *Thomas Ruffin*, or

tf ROBERT NEWSUM.